

King (NY)
Larson (CT)
Lujan Grisham,
M.

Napolitano
Roskam
Scalise
Speier

Taylor
Webster (FL)
Zeldin

□ 1252

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize appropriations and to appropriate amounts for the Veterans Choice Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to improve hiring authorities of the Department, to authorize major medical facility leases, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I was absent during rollcall votes No. 436, No. 437, and No. 438 due to my spouse's health situation in California. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on H.R. 481—Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3180) Intelligence Authorization Act for FY 2018. I would have also voted "yea" on H.R. 3180—Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018. I would have also voted "yea" on S. 114—Department of Veterans Affairs Bonus Transparency Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ZELDIN. Madam Speaker, today I was absent in order to accompany the President of the United States on a visit to my district in Long Island, New York. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 436, "yea" on rollcall No. 437, and "yea" on rollcall No. 438.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, on Friday, July 28, 2017, I was not present for rollcall votes 437 and 438. If I had been present for these votes, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 437 and "yea" on rollcall vote 438.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORITIES ACT, FISCAL YEAR 2017, IMPROVEMENTS ACT

Mr. ROYCE of California. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Affairs be discharged from further consideration of the bill (S. 371) to make technical changes and other improvements to the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 371

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017, Improvements Act".

SEC. 2. OVERSIGHT BY COMMITTEES ON APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) OMNIBUS DIPLOMATIC SECURITY AND ANTITERRORISM ACT OF 1986.—Section 104(a)

of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986, as added by section 101 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323), is amended by inserting "and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives" after "appropriate congressional committees".

(b) ANNUAL REPORT ON EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION COSTS.—Section 118(a) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by inserting "and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives" after "appropriate congressional committees".

(c) OVERSIGHT OF AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PEACEKEEPER ABUSES.—Section 301(a) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by inserting "and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives" after "appropriate congressional committees".

(d) WORKFORCE RIGHTSIZING REPORT.—Section 405(c) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by inserting "and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives" after "appropriate congressional committees".

(e) CONSULAR IMMUNITY.—Subsection (b)(2) of section 4 of the Diplomatic Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 254c), as added by section 501 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323), is amended by striking "of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations" and inserting "and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations".

(f) WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRUG POLICY COMMISSION REPORT.—Section 602(c) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended—

(1) by inserting "and the Committee on Appropriations" after "Committee on Foreign Affairs"; and

(2) by inserting "and the Committee on Appropriations" after "Committee on Foreign Relations";

SEC. 3. PEACEKEEPING TRAINING.

Section 301 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking "enhance the discovery" and inserting "investigate allegations";

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking "adequately respond to complaints about such offenses by carrying out swift and effective disciplinary action against the personnel" and inserting "appropriately hold accountable personnel"; and

(C) in paragraph (3), by inserting "including compensation to victims, as appropriate" after "responses to such offenses";

(2) in subsection (f)(2), by striking "any individual who commits an act" and inserting "personnel who are found to have committed acts"; and

(3) in subsection (g)(1), by striking "noteworthy".

SEC. 4. QUALIFICATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL.

Section 310 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking "The descriptions referred to in subsection (a) shall include the following elements" and inserting "In addition to the descriptions referred to in subsection (a), each such candidate shall be urged to describe the following"; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking "such 1" and inserting "such agenda".

SEC. 5. POLICY REGARDING THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL.

Section 311(a)(2) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking "or" and inserting a semicolon; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

"(E) which has been designated as a Tier 3 country in the annual Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107); or

"(F) which is identified as having failed to prevent or address gross violations of human rights in the annual Department of State Human Rights Report under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Trade Act of 1974."

SEC. 6. COMPARATIVE REPORT ON PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS.

Section 313 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended—

(1) by inserting "and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives" after "appropriate congressional committees";

(2) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

"(1) a comparison of the costs of current United Nations peacekeeping operations, including the costs incurred by the United States for such operations, and the estimated cost of such operations if implemented unilaterally by the United States;"

(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1), as amended by paragraph (2) of this section, the following new paragraph:

"(2) an assessment of the operational, structural, and doctrinal differences between the military and civilian infrastructures of the United States and United Nations and other assumptions that impact cost estimates; and"

SEC. 7. LATERAL ENTRY INTO THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

Section 404(a) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by striking "outstanding".

SEC. 8. COMBATING INTOLERANCE.

The section heading of section 419 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by striking "ANTI-SEMITISM" and inserting "INTOLERANCE".

SEC. 9. TECHNICAL CORRECTION REGARDING COMPLETION OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRUG POLICY COMMISSION REPORT.

Section 603(f)(1) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by striking "section 362" and inserting "section 602(c)".

SEC. 10. BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

Section 703(b)(2) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by striking "any significant restructuring."

SEC. 11. RANSOMS TO FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 709(a) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by inserting "to the extent practicable," before "transmit".

SEC. 12. RESTORATION OF TIBET REPORT.

Section 613 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-228, 22 U.S.C. 6901 note), as amended by section 715(b)(1) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323), is further amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "IN GENERAL" and inserting the following: "POLICY—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—”;

(2) by redesignating subsection (b) as paragraph (2) and moving such paragraph, as so redesignated, two ems to the right; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(b) PERIODIC REPORTS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017, Improvements Act, and annually thereafter until December 31, 2021, the President shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on—

“(1) the steps taken by the President and the Secretary in accordance with subsection (a)(1); and

“(2) the status of any discussions between the People’s Republic of China and the Dalai Lama or his representatives.”.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. ROYCE of California. Madam Speaker, I have an amendment at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017, Improvements Act”.

SEC. 2. REPORTS.

(a) OMNIBUS DIPLOMATIC SECURITY AND ANTITERRORISM ACT OF 1986.—Section 104(a) of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986, as added by section 101 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323), is amended by inserting “and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives” after “appropriate congressional committees”.

(b) ANNUAL REPORT ON EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION COSTS.—Section 118(a) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by inserting “and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives” after “appropriate congressional committees”.

(c) OVERSIGHT OF AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PEACEKEEPER ABUSES.—Section 301(a) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by inserting “and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives” after “appropriate congressional committees”.

(d) WORKFORCE RIGHTSIZING REPORT.—Section 405(c) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by inserting “and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives” after “appropriate congressional committees”.

(e) CONSULAR IMMUNITY.—Subsection (b)(2) of section 4 of the Diplomatic Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 254c), as added by section 501 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323), is amended by striking “of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations” and inserting “and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations”.

(f) WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRUG POLICY COMMISSION REPORT.—Section 602(c) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended—

(1) by inserting “and the Committee on Appropriations” after “Committee on Foreign Affairs”; and

(2) by inserting “and the Committee on Appropriations” after “Committee on Foreign Relations”;

SEC. 3. PEACEKEEPING TRAINING.

Section 301 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “enhance the discovery” and inserting “investigate allegations”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “adequately respond to complaints about such offenses by carrying out swift and effective disciplinary action against the personnel” and inserting “appropriately hold accountable personnel”; and

(C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, including compensation to victims, as appropriate” after “responses to such offenses”;

(2) in subsection (f)(2), by striking “any individual who commits an act” and inserting “personnel who are found to have committed acts”; and

(3) in subsection (g)(1), by striking “noteworthy”.

SEC. 4. QUALIFICATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL.

Section 310 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking “The descriptions referred to in subsection (a) shall include the following elements” and inserting “In addition to the descriptions referred to in subsection (a), each such candidate shall be urged to describe the following”; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “such 1” and inserting “such agenda”.

SEC. 5. POLICY REGARDING THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL.

Section 311(a)(2) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” at the end; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(E) which has been designated as a Tier 3 country in the annual Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107); or

“(F) which is identified as having failed to prevent or address gross violations of human rights in the annual Department of State Human Rights Report under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Trade Act of 1974; and”.

SEC. 6. COMPARATIVE REPORT ON PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS.

Section 313 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended—

(1) by inserting “and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives” after “appropriate congressional committees”;

(2) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

“(1) a comparison of the costs of current United Nations peacekeeping operations, including the costs incurred by the United States for such operations, and the estimated cost of such operations if implemented unilaterally by the United States;”;

(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1), as amended by paragraph (2) of this section, the following new paragraph:

“(2) an assessment of the operational, structural, and doctrinal differences between the military and civilian infrastructures of the United States and United Nations and other assumptions that impact cost estimates; and”.

SEC. 7. LATERAL ENTRY INTO THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

Section 404(a) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by striking “outstanding”.

SEC. 8. COMBATING INTOLERANCE.

The section heading of section 419 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by striking “ANTI-SEMITISM” and inserting “INTOLERANCE”.

SEC. 9. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS REGARDING COMPLETION OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRUG POLICY COMMISSION REPORT.

Section 603 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended—

(1) in subsection (f)(1), by striking “section 362” and inserting “section 602(c)”; and

(2) by amending subsection (h) to read as follows:

“(h) COMPENSATION.—Members of the Commission shall serve without pay or benefits.”.

SEC. 10. TECHNICAL CORRECTION REGARDING POWERS OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRUG POLICY COMMISSION.

Section 604 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) GIFTS, BEQUESTS, AND DEVISES.—The Commission may solicit, accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or devises of money, services, or property, both real and personal, for the purpose of carrying out any duty, power, or authority of the Commission.”.

SEC. 11. BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

Section 703(b)(2) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by striking “any significant restructuring.”.

SEC. 12. RANSOMS TO FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 709(a) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323) is amended by inserting “, to the extent practicable,” before “transmit”.

SEC. 13. RESTORATION OF TIBET REPORT.

Section 613 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-228, 22 U.S.C. 6901 note), as amended by section 715(b)(1) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-323), is further amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “IN GENERAL” and inserting the following: “POLICY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—”;

(2) by redesignating subsection (b) as paragraph (2) and moving such paragraph, as so redesignated, two ems to the right; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(b) PERIODIC REPORTS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017, Improvements Act, and annually thereafter until December 31, 2021, the President shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on—

“(1) the steps taken by the President and the Secretary in accordance with subsection (a)(1) to implement the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002; and

“(2) the status of any discussions between the People’s Republic of China and the Dalai Lama or his representatives or a successor selected by a method of the 14th Dalai Lama’s own choosing or the representatives of such successor.”.

SEC. 14. DEPARTMENT OF STATE REORGANIZATIONS.

The report required under subsection (1) of section 7034 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-31) shall also

be provided to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations in the Senate concurrent with the submission of such report to the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate pursuant to such subsection.

Mr. ROYCE of California (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PRIVILEGED REPORT ON RESOLUTION TO THE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. KATKO, from the Committee on Homeland Security, submitted an adverse privileged report (Rept. No. 115-270) on the resolution (H. Res. 447) directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to Department of Homeland Security policies and activities relating to businesses owned or controlled by President Donald J. Trump, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PRIVILEGED REPORT ON RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. SHUSTER, from the Committee on Transportation, submitted an adverse privileged report (Rept. No. 115-269) on the resolution (H. Res. 437) of inquiry requesting the President to provide certain documents in the President's possession, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Mariel Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING VICTIMS OF HUMAN SMUGGLING

(Mr. CASTRO of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my condolences to the loved ones and families of the 10 victims who died in the tragic human smuggling incident that took place in my hometown of San Antonio, Texas, over the weekend. Many before them have sought to come to our country by land and sea, and have perished.

These were not Americans, but they are children of God. This was, above all else, politics aside, a human tragedy.

Please join me in a moment of silence to remember the victims and the countless others like them who have lost their lives in pursuit of the American Dream.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana). Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by the Speaker on Thursday, July 27, 2017:

H.R. 3298, to authorize the Capitol Police Board to make payments from the United States Capitol Police Memorial Fund to employees of the United States Capitol Police who have sustained serious line-of-duty injuries, and for other purposes.

WASHINGTON STATE BOY SCOUTS JAMBOREE TROOP 3218

(Mr. NEWHOUSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize two groups of young men, the Boy Scouts Jamboree Troop 3218 and the Grand Columbia Council, both from Washington State, as they recently attended the 2017 National Scout Jamboree.

In the 107 years since its founding, the Boy Scouts of America have instilled the values of hard work, responsibility, resourcefulness, and citizenship into the hearts and minds of thousands of young American men. The National Scout Jamboree brings together first class scouts from all 50 States to participate in a variety of Scouting traditions and to celebrate their organization.

The Boy Scouts of America have made a marked difference in our Nation, in Washington State, and in my Fourth Congressional District through the schools and values they teach our young people. I have no doubt that these young men will continue to be leaders in their families, careers, and communities.

Please join me in thanking these troops for their commitment to American values, service, and leadership.

□ 1300

LET'S WORK TOGETHER

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Senate Republican majority failed to pass their ACA repeal. This is a win for the people across America who wrote letters, made phone calls, and organized communities against this disastrous bill.

Mr. Speaker, millions of people rely on insurance expansion made possible under the ACA. Our job is not to harm the people we serve but to make their lives better.

Under every single Republican healthcare bill, millions of people would lose health coverage. There are many steps we can take together. Let us strengthen the risk pools, promote competition among insurers, and require States to expand their Medicaid programs.

These steps will help lower premiums, increase choice, and allow 50,000 individuals in my district and millions of low-income Americans across the country to get insurance.

My constituents are tired of the partisanship. I urge my friends on the other side of the aisle to work with us and each other instead of against each other so everyday Americans do not grow even more cynical of our governing institutions.

While the failure of TrumpCare is welcome news, now is the time to hold public hearings, bipartisan meetings, and work toward goals that reduce premiums, deductibles, and healthcare costs for American people.

I look forward to working with my Republican colleagues to build on the ACA and improve the law.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SUGAR GROVE CORN BOIL

(Mr. HULTGREN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Sugar Grove Corn Boil, a volunteer-run annual summer festival bringing residents together to raise funds for local organizations doing good work in the community. This year, the corn boil is focused on helping families and organizations addressing autism.

In 1967, the first ever corn boil brought Sugar Grove community members together for several hours in order to raise enough funds for the town's first ever street lamp. As a result of the festival's initial success, the community continued the tradition year after year.

The Sugar Grove Corn Boil has grown from a one-day event to a four-day event that brings around 35,000 attendees annually. Even though the old steam engines that used to boil the corn are no longer in use, the tradition of corn in the community ensures the grain remains a staple of the festival.

While the festival has grown in size and prominence, the mission has always stayed the same: to bring friends, family, and neighbors together to raise money for local organizations and for town improvement.

In addition, the corn boil celebrates Sugar Grove's Citizen of the Year to remind the community of the difference one person can make. Every dime donated to the Sugar Grove Corn Boil is given back to the community, whether it is local groups, food banks, churches, or to meet village needs.